Proposal to Start Special Postal Service "Business Channel"

2674. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a special postal service "Business Channel"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Business Channel has been introduced with effect from 1st July' 94 in 6 important cities of the country viz Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore and Hyderabad. The scheme envisages segregation of business mails posted in post offices or in mail offices across the counter in bulk by various organisations at the stage of collection, sorting and transmission. Such segregation helps in streamlining the functioning of mail sorting offices and, in the process, it ensures speedier disposal not only of the mails posted in bulk but also of the other mails.

Narwana Telephone Exchanges in Haryana

2675. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of telephone exchanges in Haryana and how many of these have been provided with complete electronic machinery/services;

(b) by when Government propose to convert all the telephone exchanges in Haryana into electronic exchanges;

(c) whether telephone exchanges situated at Narwana in District Jind has only partial elecronic equipment and the majority of the subscribers in the Narwana exchanges are having electronic equipment causing great hardship;

(d) by when Government propose to convert the Narwana exchange into electronic exchange;

(e) whether the Department has withdrawn trunk booking facility from Narwana exchange, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) by when this facility is to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Total No. of telephone exchanges in Haryana as on 31-7-94 is 610 and out of these 594 exchanges have been provided with complete electronic machinery/services.

(b) There are 16 Electro-mechanical exchanges in the State out of which, two exchanges, one at Kalka and another exchange at Jind, are planned for replacement by Electronic exchanges during the year 1995-96. The remaining 14 exchanges have not yet outlived their prescribed life and as such are not planned for replacement. STD subscribers are being progressively transfered to electronic exchanges.

(c) Yes, Sir. The existing telephone exchange at Narwana comprise of;

(1) 1500 lines strowger system (commissioned in 1988 and expanded in phases later on), and

(2) 512 lines C DoT SBM elecronic exchange. The telephone services are quite satisfactory at Narwana.

(d) As the equipment has not served its full life, it is not yet planned for replacement.

(e) and (f) As per Policy, the trunk centres are to be limited to long distance charging centres (LDCCs) which are co-terminus with district HQ/Secondary Switching Area (SSA). Accordingly the trunk services in Narwana have been shifted to its LDCC at Jind which is a District HQ and these services are working quite satisfactorily.

Post Offices in Villages in Haryana

2676. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open post offices in all the villages of the